



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT

#3/IDS
D. EVANS
6-30-03

In re patent
appln.of: Southco, Inc.
Serial No.: 09/900,592
Filed: July 6, 2001
For: Electrical Operated Ratcheting
Pawl Latch
Inventor: Eric D. Hyp
Docket No. 164-01

"EXPRESS MAIL" MAILING LABEL NO:

EK198122595US

DATE OF DEPOSIT: September 21, 2001

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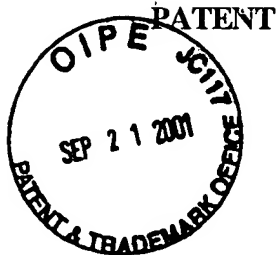
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 AND 1.98**

Sir/Madam:

In the interest of full disclosure, the following items are herewith identified in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56, §1.97 and §1.98 for consideration by the Examiner. The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

Applicant is filing the enclosed IDS prior to receipt of the first Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b) and therefore no fee is believed to be required.



Docket No. 164-01

U.S. PATENTS

U.S. Patent No. 3,918,754 issued to Isbister on November 1975
U.S. Patent No. 4,838,056 issued to Weinerman et al. on June 1989
U.S. Patent No. 4,850,208 issued to Weinerman et al. on July 1989
U.S. Patent No. 4,911,487 issued to Rachocki on March 1990
U.S. Patent No. 4,969,916 issued to Weinerman et al. on November 1990
U.S. Patent No. 4,989,907 issued to Edmonds et al. on February 1991
U.S. Patent No. 5,046,340 issued to Weinerman on September 1991
U.S. Patent No. 5,098,141 issued to Bull on March 1992
U.S. Patent No. 5,127,686 issued to Gleason et al. on July 1992
U.S. Patent No. 5,234,238 issued to Takimoto on August 1993
U.S. Patent No. 5,299,844 issued to Gleason on April 1994
U.S. Patent No. 5,340,174 issued to Beader et al. on August 1994
U.S. Patent No. 5,413,391 issued to Clavin et al. on May 1995

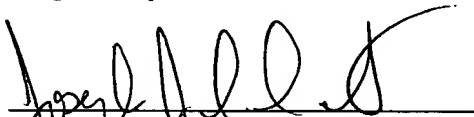
OTHER DOCUMENTS

Suzuki Latch (Item 1)
Toyota Latch (Item 2)
Nissan or Mazda Latch (Item 3)
Lexus Latch (Item 4)
Latch (Item 5)
Nissan Latch (Item 6)

Date: September 21, 2001

Order No. 0628

Respectfully submitted,


Joseph J. DiDonato
Registration No. 48,897
Paul & Paul
2900 Two Thousand Market Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103
Telephone (215) 568-4900
Facsimile (215) 567-5057